

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 4,485,206 (Inoue et al), is respectfully traversed. Inoue et al requires an organic sulfur compound selected from the class consisting of thiazole compounds, thiuram compounds and dithiocarbamate compounds. Above-amended Claim 1, and claims dependent thereon, require the presence of sulfur compounds that do not overlap the organic sulfur compound of Inoue et al. Nor does Inoue et al otherwise suggest any of the presently-recited sulfur compounds. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 4,529,749 (Favre et al), is respectfully traversed. Favre et al requires at least one fungicidal tetralkylthiuram disulfide. The presently-claimed invention, on the other hand, requires a sulfur-containing organic compound neither disclosed nor suggested by Favre et al's tetralkylthiuram disulfide. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. 4,973,644 (Onishi et al), is respectfully traversed. The Examiner relies on Onishi et al's disclosure of mercapto group-containing alkoxy silanes as meeting the limitations of component (c) herein. However, above-amended Claim 1 requires a sulfur-containing compound different from, and not suggested by, the mercapto group-containing alkoxy silane of Onishi et al. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The objection to Claim 10 is now moot in view of the above-discussed amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that it be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully call the Examiner's attention to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed May 6, 2005. The Examiner is respectfully requested to initial the

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Form PTO 1449 submitted therewith, and include a copy thereof with the next Office communication.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowability of the subject matter of Claims 9-13. Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently-pending claims in this application are now in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Customer Number

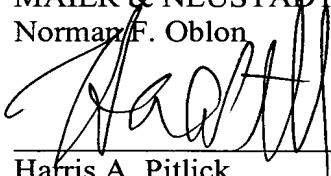
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